

Draft

Environmental Assessment

for

Athens Boat Club
Lake Sidney Lanier
Dawsonville, Dawson County, Georgia



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Mobile District

Prepared by:



UNITED CONSULTING

August 2015

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
PROPOSED MASTER PLAN

ATHENS BOAT CLUB, LAKE SIDNEY LANIER
DAWSONVILLE, DAWSON COUNTY, GEORGIA

1. INTRODUCTION:

This environmental assessment (EA) was prepared utilizing a systematic, interdisciplinary approach integrating the natural and social sciences and the design arts with planning and decision-making. The proposed action and its alternatives are evaluated in multiple contexts for short-term and long-term effects and for adverse and beneficial effects. This assessment indicates the effects on the human environment are well known and do not involve unique or unknown risks. It is not anticipated that this is a precedent-setting action, nor does it represent a decision in principle about any future consideration.

This EA was conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA [40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1500-1508], and Engineer Regulation 200-2-2.

A public review period for this action will be conducted prior to the issuance of any Finding by posting the Draft EA on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website.

This EA and associated proposed Master Development Plan (Appendix B) have been prepared in accordance with SAMDR 1110-1-3 and SAM SOP 1145-1-1. This EA is intended to address the proposed Master Development Plan that has been prepared to meet the future growth needs of the Athens Boat Club. The Master Plan generally proposes upgrading existing docks, the addition of dock space, walkway construction/renovations, dredging, and shoreline stabilization. The intent of this EA is to assess potential environmental impacts from these proposed actions as further outlined below.

a. Location:

This EA relates to Athens Boat Club, which is a 12.93-acre marina operated on Lake Sidney Lanier. Athens Boat Club currently leases the area from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District. The current lease has been in effect since June 18, 2013 (DACW01-1-13-0641). Athens Boat Club is located approximately 10.5 miles from downtown Dawsonville, Georgia and only 4.5 miles from Georgia Highway 400, less than an hour north of Atlanta. The property is accessible via a two-lane paved road off of State Route 318. The primary access to the Project Site is via Dogwood Drive. Figure 1, Figure 2, and Figure 3 identify the location of the project and are included in **Appendix A**.

The Athens Boat Club was formed in 1958 as a social club and has developed over time into a small tight knit community. Access to the Athens Boat Club is restricted to club members and their guests, with the exception of the fueling station and weekly church services held throughout the summer months which are open to the general public.

The Athens Boat Club property includes private land holdings as well as a lease from the USACE. The approved Master Plan, dated 17 December 1985, shows the lease area to include a boat ramp, 18 docks (16 existing and 2 proposed, totaling 118 slips), a gas dock and a courtesy dock, pedestrian bridges, a swim dock, and a proposed private dock and seawall. The plan does not have sufficient detail to show supporting infrastructure such as access pathways and parking areas. The 1985 Master Plan was revised in September 2004 to show the shifting and re-numbering of the docks and an increase in the total number of slips to 147. Although the 2004 plan allows for 147 slips, there are currently 142 slips. The 2004 plan still does not provide detail to show the supporting infrastructure. Further, the 2004 revised plan is not on file as an approved plan with the USACE.

b. Proposed Action:

The proposed Master Plan includes the construction of additional slips, reconfiguration of existing docks and slips (for a total of 169 slips, an increase of 25 slips) walkway construction/stabilization, limited dredging/reclamation activities, and shoreline stabilization. A copy of the Proposed Master Plan has been included in **Appendix B**.

c. Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action:

The proposed plan has been developed to address four main concerns:

- (1) dockage, which is currently at capacity
- (2) dock access
- (3) shoreline stabilization
- (4) dredging

The proposed changes to the Master Plan will allow Athens Boat Club to continue to provide comfortable, safe access to the lake. Many of the boat club members are now retirement age and the upgraded pathways, handrails, and lighting systems will help mitigate safety concerns. The expanded dockage will also allow the boat club to raise additional operating funds; thereby keeping dockage fees low for all boat club members.

d. Authority:

The construction of Lake Sidney Lanier (originally the Buford Dam multi-purpose project) was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act approved July 24, 1946, Public Law 525, 79th Congress, 2nd Session. The construction of Buford Dam was completed in 1957 and Lake Sidney Lanier was designated as such by Public Law 56-457, and approved on March 29, 1956. Recreational facilities were authorized by Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 as amended (Title 10, USC 460d). The authorization included the use of the lake for boating, parks, and other outdoor recreational activities and associated development.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Lake Sidney Lanier Georgia (Lanier O&M EIS), dated November 2003 by the USACE, indicated natural, cultural, and developed resources of projects are to be managed in the public interest, providing the public with safe and healthful recreational opportunities while protecting and enhancing resources.

Title 16, United States code, Section 460d, states in pertinent part: “The Chief of Engineers, under the supervision of the Secretary of the Army, is authorized to construct, maintain, and operate public park and recreational facilities at water resources development projects under control of the Department of the Army, to permit the construction of such facilities, by local interest (particularly those to be operated and maintained by such interests), and to permit the maintenance and operation of such facilities by local interest.” “Preference shall be given to Federal, State, or local governmental agencies, and agencies for the use of all or any portion of a project area for any public purpose, when the Secretary of the Army determines such action to be in the public interest, and for such periods of time upon such conditions he may find advisable.”

Pursuant to the Recreation Lakes Act of 1996, Public Law 104-333 (http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/cecwon/pdfs/nat_lakes.pdf), the President of the United States appointed the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission to review opportunities for enhancing water-based recreation at Federal Lakes. The Commission’s charge, in part, was to “make recommendations on alternatives for enhanced recreation opportunities . . . emphasizing private sector initiatives in concert with State and local units of government”. The Commission’s recommendations can be found in their report, “Reservoirs of Opportunity”.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING WITHOUT THE PROJECT:

a. General Environmental Setting:

Lake Lanier covers 39,038 acres at the full pool elevation of 1071 mean sea level (msl) and has a perimeter shoreline of 693 miles. Lake Sidney Lanier’s Buford Dam is located at river mile 348.3 on the Chattahoochee River. The lake covers land located within both the Chattahoochee and Chestatee River valleys and includes land holdings in Dawson, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, and Lumpkin Counties. The southern end of the lake, near the dam, is located approximately 35 miles northeast of metropolitan Atlanta. The USACE controls approximately 17,744 acres above full pool, of those, approximately 2,400 acres are open land and the remainder is forested by a mixture of hardwoods including oaks, hickories, elm, sweet bay, ash, sycamore, persimmon, dogwood, and various pine species.

The Athens Boat Club lease consists of approximately 13 acres which is located on the southwest shoreline of Lake Sidney Lanier. Further, the lease is located approximately three miles northeast of the intersection of Georgia Highway 400 and Georgia Highway 53 in Dawsonville, Georgia. The site is accessed via Dogwood Drive, which is a two-lane, asphalt-paved road. Entry into the private land holdings and the lease area is controlled by an electronic gate.

The existing developed portion includes minimal disturbance within the lease area, with gravel or natural surface walking paths, a grass sitting area, a paved roadway, paved parking areas and boat ramp, pedestrian bridges, a fuel slip, and wet docks. This development encompasses approximately one acre of paved surfaces for roads, parking and the boat ramp, and approximately one-half acre for natural surface trails and a lawn. The remaining land (about 11.5 acres) is either maintained grass with scattered mature trees or is wooded and undeveloped.

The Lake Sidney Lanier portion of the Athens Boat Club consists of a small inlet that is surrounded on both sides by the lease area and the associated private lands of the Athens Boat Club members. Two small streams flow into the inlet on the west and south sides. Additional information regarding the existing conditions of the area is provided below and is referred to herein as the Project Site.

b. Significant Resource Descriptions:

(1) Wetlands and Streams.

A preliminary wetland investigation was performed on the Project Site by a wetland biologist from United Consulting. The wetland investigation included a review of available wetland map, soils map, and an on-site field evaluation. A summary of the map review and site investigation is provided below.

The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) map of the Project Site did not indicate previously mapped wetland areas on the Project Site. Lake Sidney Lanier is mapped as a palustrine permanently flooded aquatic system, and would be classified as a deep water habitat.

The soil survey map for the Project Site indicated Fannin sandy clay loam, Hayesville sandy loam, Hayesville sandy clay loam, Hiwassee loam, and Tallapoosa soils mapped on the Project Site. These soil types are not included on either the local or the national hydric soils lists. Copies of the NWI map and soil survey map are included as Figures 4 and 5, respectively, and are located in **Appendix A**.

Although the NWI map and Soil Survey map did not indicate previously mapped wetlands, based on United Consulting's site reconnaissance of the Project Site in October of 2013 by a qualified wetlands biologist, two wetland areas were identified within the Project Site. The identified wetlands were observed within the western and southern most coves along the transition zone from lake edge to confined stream system. The wetland areas along the western and southern coves were approximately 0.1-acre and 0.05-acre, respectively. Areas within and along the wetlands were wooded and undeveloped, other than where the perimeter road crossed the streams.

(2) Fishery Resources.

Lake Sidney Lanier is a popular recreational fishery. The O&M EIS for Lake Sidney Lanier indicated the presence of five critical fish species. These five species include crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*), largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), spotted bass (*Micropterus punctatus*), striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*), and white bass (*Morone chrysops*). In addition to the five critical fish species, other important fish species in the project area include sunfish (*Lepomis spp.*), channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*), white catfish (*Ameiurus catus*), and carp (*Cyprinus carpio*). Some species of trout exist in Lake Sidney Lanier and below the Buford Dam in the Chattahoochee River. Trout are also stocked in a "put-and-take" fishery below the Buford Dam by the GDNR. Fishing is one of the major recreational draws of Lake Sidney Lanier.

(3) Wildlife Resources and Habitat.

The existing vegetation varies across the Project Site and includes stands of mature hardwood forest, mixed pine/hardwood forest, forested wetland, and shallow open water. The upland and

lowland forest included yellow-poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*), northern red oak (*Q. rubra*), hickories (*Carya* spp.), loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), box elder (*A. negundo*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), and ironwood (*Carpinus virginiana*).

The wetlands within the Project Site are vegetated with red maple, black willow (*Salix nigra*), sweet-gum, black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), and swamp dogwood (*C. amomum*).

Photos of the Project Area are included as **Appendix C**.

Typical wildlife species found in the Apalachicola Chattahoochee Flint (ACF) river basin include whitetail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), Eastern wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus*), mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*), eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), and gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*). Several avian species are also found in the Lake Sidney Lanier area. Some common summer species include Canada geese (*Branta canadensis*), great blue herons (*Ardea herodias*), green-backed herons (*Butorides striatus*), kingfishers (*Ceryle alcyon*), and ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) are common during the summer.

The vegetative community diversity of the Project Site provides good habitat for a variety of bird and other animal species. Species observed or likely inhabiting the Project Site include the gray squirrel, swamp rabbit (*S. palustris*), Eastern chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*), white-tailed deer, Canada geese, wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*), mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), green frog (*Rana clamitans*), painted turtle (*Chrysemys picta*), black rat snake (*Elaphe obsoleta*), sunfish, and largemouth bass. In addition, several other small mammals, herpetofauna and songbird species are likely present as well. During the on-site field survey of the Project Site, no unusual or protected species were observed on the site.

(4) Threatened and Endangered Species.

The Georgia DNR Wildlife website was searched for at-risk animal and plant species occurring in the HUC 8 watershed that includes Lake Sidney Lanier. At-risk species are those that are identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) or the State of Georgia as endangered, threatened, rare, unusual, or candidate species for listing. Federally listed threatened and endangered species are protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. This Act was designed to protect critically imperiled species from extinction due to "the consequences of economic growth and development untempered by adequate concern and conservation". The State of Georgia has its own lists of plants and animals (as developed by the Georgia DNR and approved by the legislature) that are considered threatened or endangered and may also be protected under state law. The listed species and their status are included below in Table 1.

Table 1 – Federal and State Listed Protected Species Identified In Lake Sidney Lanier Watershed

SPECIES	Identified within HUC 8 Chattahoochee/ Lake Lanier Watershed	Dawson County IPAC Report	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS
ANIMAL SPECIES				
Henslow’s Sparrow (<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Chattahoochee Crayfish (<i>Cambarus howardi</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Bluestripe shiner (<i>Cyprinella callitaenia</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Delicate spike (<i>Elliptio arctata</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Etowah Darter (<i>Etheostoma etowahae</i>)		X	Endangered	Endangered
Cherokee Darter (<i>Etheostoma scotti</i>)		X	Threatened	Threatened
Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	X		Special Federal Status	GA Protected
Shinyrayed pocketbook (<i>Hamiota subangulata</i>)	X		Endangered	Endangered
Highscale shiner (<i>Notropis hypsilepis</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Edmund’s Snaketail (<i>Ophiogomphus edundo</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Amber Darter (<i>Percina antesella</i>)		X	Endangered	Endangered
Goldline Darter (<i>Percina aurolineata</i>)		X	Threatened	Threatened
Halloween Darter (<i>Percina crypta</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Indiana bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)	X	X	Endangered	Endangered
Northern long-eared bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	X	X	Threatened	No Status
PLANT SPECIES				
Porter’s Reed Grass (<i>Calamagrostis porter</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Granite Dome Sedge (<i>Carex biltmoreana</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Cuthebert’s Turtlehead	X		No Federal	GA Protected

SPECIES	Identified within HUC 8 Chattahoochee/ Lake Lanier Watershed	Dawson County IPAC Report	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS
<i>(Chelone cuthbertii)</i>			Status	
American Lily-of-the-Valley <i>(Convallaria majuscula)</i>			No Federal Status	GA Protected
Pink ladyslipper <i>(Cypripedium acaule)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Yellow ladyslipper <i>(Cypripedium parviflorum)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Smooth purple coneflower <i>(Echinacea laevigata)</i>	X		Endangered	Endangered
Mountain witch-alder <i>(Fothergilla major)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Swamp Pink <i>(Helonias bullata)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Goldenseal <i>(Hydrastis canadensis)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Small whorled pogonia <i>(Isotria medeoloides)</i>	X		Threatened	Threatened
Carolina Bog Laurel <i>(Kalmia Carolina)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Sweet pinesap <i>(Monotropsis odorata)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Indian olive <i>(Nestronia umbellula)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Monkeyface orchid <i>(Platanthera integrilabia)</i>	X		Candidate	Threatened
Mountain Purple Pitcherplant <i>(Sarracenia purpurea)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Dwarf sumac <i>(Rhus michauxii)</i>	X		Endangered	Endangered
Bay starvine <i>(Schisandra glabra)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Mountain Cinquelfoi <i>(Sibbaldiopsis tridentate)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Ovate Catchfly <i>(Silene ovate)</i>	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Georgia aster <i>(Symphyotrichum gerogianum)</i>	X		Candidate	Threatened
Florida torreyia <i>(Torreyia taxifolia)</i>	X		Endangered	Endangered

SPECIES	Identified within HUC 8 Chattahoochee/ Lake Lanier Watershed	Dawson County IPAC Report	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS
Starflower (<i>Trientalis borealis</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Ozark bunchflower (<i>Veratrum woodii woodii</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Piedmont barren strawberry (<i>Waldsteinia lobata</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected
Eastern turkeybeard (<i>Xerophyllum asphodeloides</i>)	X		No Federal Status	GA Protected

A field investigation was conducted on the property by wildlife biologist Mr. David P. Huetter with United Consulting in October of 2013. No federally listed threatened or protected plant species were identified in the IPAC report of Dawson County, Georgia. Six federally listed animals were identified in the IPAC report. Four of these listed animals are darter species which require habitat was not observed within the lease area. Two of the species, the Indiana Bat (Endangered) and the Northern Long-eared Bat (Threatened) have been identified during warmer months in Georgia.

(5) Historic and Archeological Resources.

With the exception of a few small tracts to the north, the fee-owned government lands surrounding Lake Sidney Lanier were surveyed for cultural resources between the late 1930s and 1987. These surveys are referenced in Section 3.10 *Cultural Resources* of the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Operation and Maintenance of Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia*. According to the EIS, only six archaeological sites and no standing historic structures eligible or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are located within the government fee-owned lands surrounding Lake Sidney Lanier. The results of these surveys were coordinated with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as part of the process for completing the *Historic Properties Management Plan for Sidney Lanier Project, Georgia* in March 1997.

Further, a literature review and research of the Project Site area was conducted by a professional cultural resource firm, R.S. Webb & Associates, to determine if any of the previously identified archaeological sites were located within the Project Area. The research included reviewing files at the SHPO, as well as the Georgia Archaeological Site Files at the University of Georgia (Athens).. The literature review identified seven historic structures within one-mile of the Project Site. The most proximate of these structures was located approximately 700 feet west of the Project Site. Based on this information, no previously identified properties listed on or eligible for listing on the NRHP are located within the boundaries of the Project Site.

In accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 and 43 CFR 10, the following provision must be observed. In the unlikely event that an inadvertent discovery of previously unknown cultural resources or potential human remains are uncovered

during construction, all work must cease, the discovery must be protected, and the Mobile District Archaeologist, the Lake Sidney Lanier project manager, as well as the Georgia State Archaeologist must be contacted immediately. A copy of the Inadvertent Discoveries Plan for Cultural Resources is included in Appendix D.

(6) Navigation.

Navigation is an authorized purpose of the Buford Dam Project based on its ability to store large quantities of water and provide low flow augmentation for commercial navigation downstream in the Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers. Commercial navigation extends to Bainbridge, Georgia on the Flint River and to Columbus, Georgia, and Phenix City, Alabama on the Chattahoochee River. However, navigation on Lake Sidney Lanier is limited to recreational boat traffic. As one of the most heavily visited lakes in the country, recreational traffic is quite heavy at times, particularly on holidays and weekends.

(7) Recreation.

Lake Sidney Lanier is a common recreational area for local residents of metro Atlanta and out of town visitors. Common recreational activities at the lake include water sports, fishing, swimming, and pleasure boating. Athens Boat Club is lightly used during weekdays, but is heavily used on the weekends.

(8) Aesthetics.

The aesthetics of Athens Boat Club provide a park-like atmosphere with some grassed areas with scattered large pines and hardwoods. The other portions of the property provide a natural, wooded condition with some steep slopes providing overlooks to the lake.

(9) Air Quality.

Athens Boat Club is located within Dawson County, Georgia which is not located in the greater Atlanta nonattainment zone for ozone and particulate matter. The nonattainment is primarily due to vehicular emissions and particulate matter. Current activities at Athens Boat Club do not significantly contribute to the greater Atlanta nonattainment condition. The State of Georgia is currently working on a State Implementation Plan to mitigate the identified air nonattainment conditions.

(10) Water Quality.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) share the responsibility of maintaining water quality at Lake Sidney Lanier. Georgia DNR conducts water quality tests at a fixed point just north of Buford Dam and the USACE conducts fecal coliform bacteria testing at the 23 public beach areas due to the large goose population at Lake Sidney Lanier. As of the date of this writing, none of the public beaches had to be closed due to high concentrations of fecal coliform bacteria at the public beaches.

The Lanier O&M EIS indicated that the overall water quality is considered satisfactory for the designated uses of the reservoir. The areas in the Chattahoochee River and Chestatee River arms of the lake, where the water is shallower, reportedly have the highest levels of turbidity, total suspended solids, chlorophyll a, and nutrient concentrations, while the main body of the lake has the greatest transparency and the lowest fecal coliform counts and nutrient concentrations. The Lake Lanier Association has been coordinating through the Adopt-a-Lake program for water

quality monitoring of 30 sites across the lake since 1999. The monitoring includes evaluation of temperature, water clarity, and chlorophyll a. Based on the data obtained, the water quality in Lake Sidney Lanier has reportedly remained consistent.

Three streams flow through the Project Site. These streams are not listed on the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) 303(d) list of impaired waters. Other than sediment loading and deposition that occurs from the natural scour of stream banks and sediment transport through the stream, and agricultural and urban runoff from the upstream watershed, no apparent water quality impact sources were noted.

(11) Floodplain.

The local FEMA Floodplain map (13085C 0250B) was reviewed. Based on the map review, the 100-year flood elevation is 1,085 feet above mean seal level (amsl). The majority of the Project Site is located below this 1,085 elevation. The flood effects along Lake Sidney Lanier are managed through discharges from Buford Dam. Since construction, Lake Sidney Lanier has never reached this flood elevation, with the highest recorded elevation being 1077.2 feet amsl, which occurred in April of 1964. A copy of the floodplain map is included as Figure 6.

(12) Socio-economics.

Based on information from the U.S. Census Bureau (<http://factfinder.census.gov/>), the population of Dawson County was 22,330 in 2010. Forsyth County located adjacent to the east reported a population of 175,511 in 2010. Historical census data from 1990 suggests that Dawson County experienced a population growth rate of 237% and Forsyth County experienced a growth rate of 398% over the same time period. The populations of these counties are influenced by access to jobs in the metro Atlanta area, reasonable housing costs, and extensive recreational opportunities. The current lease area is surrounded by a close knit residential community utilized as retirement and weekend vacation homes.

(13) Prime and Unique Farmlands.

There are no prime farmlands or unique agricultural lands located within the lease boundaries of the Athens Boat Club.

(14) Hazardous and Toxic Materials.

No indications of petroleum or hazardous substance contamination were observed at the Athens Boat Club. A review of federal and state regulatory databases indentified the Athens Boat Club as an operator of an underground storage tank. The Athens Boat Club currently operates one 10,000 gallon gasoline tank which is located within the private land holdings of the boat club. Gasoline product lines extend from the private land holdings to the lease area to service the marina. No storage tanks or other containers were observed within the lease area.

The Athens Boat Club pays into the Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) GUST Trust Fund, which will pay for a portion of investigative and cleanup costs if a release is either suspected or confirmed at the facility. Athens Boat Club updated their Spill Prevention Plan on August 11, 2012. The plan conforms to current Georgia EPD requirements.

(15) Other.

(a) Land Use.

Currently, Athens Boat Club is utilized as a marina, day use area for recreation, boating access and general outdoor recreation. The site has been developed accordingly, and includes parking areas, docks, restroom and picnic facilities, and launch ramp. Surrounding properties are generally developed with single family residences, or contain rural, agricultural land.

(b) Vehicular Traffic.

Athens Boat Club is located at the terminus of Dogwood Drive. Development along these roads is single-family residential, rural farmland, and boat storage. Current vehicular traffic is limited to local residents and recreational users of the lake.

(c) Noise.

The facilities at Athens Boat Club are relatively isolated and therefore do not routinely disrupt typical day to day activities on the properties surrounding the lease. Potential sources for noise at the marina and the surrounding properties would be primarily from vehicular and boat traffic and typical maintenance activities (lawn mowers, leaf blowers, etc.).

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE RECOMMENDED PLAN:

Generally, the recommended plan allows Athens Boat Club to provide its members with additional wet slips, an updated fueling station, and access trail systems which meet USACE guidelines. The proposed Master Plan also addresses shoreline erosion issues and provides for targeted dredging activities around specific docks. The advantages of this plan are that each of the four goals set by the club will have been met. These goals include: additional dockage, upgraded trail systems, shoreline stabilization, and limited/targeted dredging activities. By limiting and targeting specific needs, the club will be able to absorb the costs of the proposed plan without incurring debilitating liabilities.

The recommended plan includes the addition of 25 wet slips within the marina. Forty-two slips will be located on new docks identified on the proposed Master Plan as Docks F, M, and O. Two additional wet slips will be added to Docks A and P, and current docks C, F, and K will be reconfigured. In addition to the proposed wet slips, the proposed Master Plan includes the development of, stabilization of, and/or re-engineering of approximately 2,200 feet of lakeside access pathways. Existing pathways will be resurfaced with #M-88 gravel as appropriate. The trail along the southern lakeshore from the south parking area to the area of existing Dock P will be upgraded to a golf cart path to provide improved access and limit “off” trail access to docks along the southern shoreline. The golf cart pathway will be constructed of grass blocks or other appropriate materials as outlined in the USACE guidance documents. Handrails and lighting will be installed along the pathways to maintain safety.

Shore stabilization will occur in three areas identified as Areas 4, 14, and 27 on the proposed Master Plan. Generally, stabilization will be achieved with vegetative and/or riprap placement. Athens Boat Club does not anticipate conducting bank stabilization activities in areas that are currently vegetated and stable. Dredging has been proposed at Areas 4, 13, 15a, 17, 18, 27, and

29 where sediment deposition is impacting lake access and/or prevent damage to the dock(s) during low water conditions. Athens Boat Club will submit a separate request for the shoreline stabilization and dredging permits prior to the commencement of these activities. Dredged materials will be placed behind existing and proposed seawalls within undeveloped upland areas.

BMPs will be utilized during construction and dredging activities. A copy of the proposed Master Plan is attached in **Appendix B**.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE RECOMMENDED PLAN:

a. Biological and Physical Impacts:

The recommended plan consists of the construction three new docks, upgrades to the existing fueling dock and associated infrastructure. Current walking trails and cart paths along the shoreline will also be re-engineered to meet current USACE guidelines. In addition to the dock and trail upgrades, the recommended plan also includes a plan to stabilize the shoreline in three areas showing shoreline erosion and to remove sediment deposition in targeted areas around existing docks and in backwater inlets. Unavoidable adverse effects would emanate, primarily from very minor land disturbance associated with construction activities and removal of small understory vegetation for the trail construction/repairs. The recommended plan does not anticipate the need to significantly shift the existing trail system from its current footprint. The recommend plan also includes actions which have been designed to slow shoreline erosion and additional sediment deposition, such as additional rip rap placement in areas of high erosion, limited bank shaping to slow erosion, and/or construction of seawalls to mitigate shoreline erosion.

(1) Wetlands and Streams.

A wetlands investigation was performed for the Project Site. Wetlands were identified where two small tributary streams flow into the lake. The western tributary consisted of a small perennial stream contained within a well-defined channel that flowed under the perimeter road and into the lake. Forested wetland areas were located along the stream, generally where the stream flowed into the lake. The southern tributary consisted of two small intermittent streams that merged and flowed into the lake. A small area of forested wetlands was located at the convergence of the streams and extending to the lake. No disturbance to the wetlands and no discharge into or disturbance of the streams is proposed. The wetland investigation for this project was conducted by a qualified wetland consultant and consultation with the USACE Regulatory Division should not be necessary as no wetland impacts are proposed under the preferred alternative. Proposed rip rap and seawall placement(s) will be located outside of the wetlands areas. Appropriate permits for shoreline stabilization, placement of rip-rap and/or construction of seawalls will be obtained as required.

(2) Fishery Resources.

The implementation of the plan would not significantly impact the local fishery. The construction of the three additional docks should provide improved shallow water habitat for the fishery. The placement of the docks will provide additional cover as well as structure, in an area where natural coarse woody debris is limited. Appropriate/applicable permits for construction of docks will be obtained prior to implementation, as needed.

(3) Wildlife Resources and Habitat.

While the Project Site currently provides habitat for some small mammals, songbirds, reptiles and amphibians, the proposed action would not result in a significant disturbance to the native habitat. Long-term disturbance along the trail system would be limited to pedestrian foot, golf cart, and bicycle traffic. The proposed plan is not anticipated to result in a significant impact on wildlife resources.

(4) Endangered and Threatened Species.

Six federally threatened and endangered species were identified within the Dawson County IPAC report. Four of the identified species were identified as Etowah darter, Cherokee darter, amber darter, and goldline darter. The etowah darter is typically found in medium to large creeks that exhibit a medium to high gradient over a rocky bottom. Etowah darters generally do not thrive in areas of high silt and prefer the swift shallow riffles. The cherokee dater typically inhabits small to medium warm water creeks with predominate rocky bottoms. Generally, the cherokee darter is found in the slower runs of the channel above and below riffles. The cherokee darter typically inhabits waters with cobble, larger gravel, and boulders and is seldom observed in areas of exposed bedrock, sand, or silt. The amber darter is documented as inhabiting gentle riffles areas in a sand or silt substrate; however, the habitat range does not extend to areas of detritus or mud bottoms. Further, the amber darter is generally found in areas of lower gradient. Typcial habitat for the goldline darter is gravel tiers and rocky shoals within the main river channel and not found within the contributing tributaries. Based on the size and condition of the on-site tributaries as observed during the site visit, critical habitat for these species was not observed within the lease area.

The remaining endangered and threatened species identified on the Dawson County IPAC report included two bats, the Indiana bat and the Northern long-eared bat. Dawson County is located within the summer range of both species. During the summer, Indiana bats typically roost in loose bark on dead or dying trees. The Northern Long Eared bat will roost in under bark of both live and dead trees, within tree cavities, and sometimes within man-made structures.

Based on a lack of critical habitat within the lease area, the proposed plan is not anticipated to impact the identified darter species. In our opinion, the proposed activity will have no effect on the four protected darters.

Based on a review of the critical habitat descriptions for the two listed bat species, there is the potential that one or both of these species reside within the lease area. As outlined, the proposed plan is not anticipated to substantially impact (minimal tree removal) the critical habitat for the listed bats. Based on the site, habitat, and proposed changes to the lease, the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the two listed bat species. A request for review will be submitted to the FWS. Coordination will be provided in the final EA.

(5) Historic and Archeological Resources.

There are no known sites eligible for NRHP listing within the boundaries of the Project Site. Based on previous evaluations and review by the SHPO, and the extent of the planned improvements, the proposed plan is not anticipated to impact significant cultural resources. Further, a No Effect Determination was previously made by the USACE Mobile District

Archaeologist for the lease property. Coordination with the District archeologist will be provided in the final EA.

(6) Navigation.

The proposed action will not affect navigation on Lake Sidney Lanier. The planned, targeted dredging activities will allow for full use of existing and planned dock facilities. Dredging operations are not anticipated to interfere with day to day lake operations.

(7) Recreation.

Construction of the additional wet slips and access pathways will allow for a larger percentage of the Athens Boat Club membership to utilize site amenities on a daily/weekly basis. Currently, a percentage of the membership who would prefer a wet slip must dry store their vessel, effectively decreasing their unimpeded access to Lake Sidney Lanier.

(8) Aesthetics.

Currently, the lease area of Athens Boat Club consists of grassed and wooded areas, a paved entrance road and parking areas, boat launch, and picnic and restroom facilities. The proposed plan does not significantly alter the Project Site character. No effects to the aesthetics are anticipated. The residents and members of the Athens Boat Club enjoy the quiet and secluded conditions and intend to maintain that condition with the proposed plan.

(9) Air Quality.

The minor and temporary impacts associated with construction are not anticipated to adversely affect the ambient air quality of the area. No release or discharge of contaminants into the air is proposed from construction of the project or from daily operations that would significantly impact the ambient air quality. No long-term adverse impacts to air quality are anticipated as a result of the proposed action.

(10) Water Quality.

The proposed development activities associated with this project will be performed in accordance with Sediment and Erosion Control Requirements in Georgia and in a manner to minimize sediment loss to the Lake. Erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be utilized to minimize sediment loss and impacts to water quality. Construction of the docks will result in minimal soil disturbance and could result in a short-term and negligible increase in sedimentation within the lake. These potential minor impacts will be minimized by implementation of BMPs as required under the Sediment and Erosion Control Act and Dawson County development codes. If possible, dredging operations will be completed when the lake is below full pool. Due to the limited extent of the dredging activities, it is not anticipated that these activities would interfere with day to day operations on the lake. Further, a boom type silt curtain or similar device would be utilized to minimize water quality disturbance in the greater lake body. Any dredging activities would be permitted under separate cover.

(11) Floodplain Impacts.

Portions of the trail and cart paths will be within the limits of the 100-year floodplain. However, no buildings will be located below the 1,085 flood elevation line and no alteration of the flood elevation will occur.

(12) Socio-Economics.

The Lanier EIS dated November 2003, indicates that the area surrounding Lake Sidney Lanier is rapidly growing in terms of both population and economics. Estimates for the direct and indirect economic effects of Lake Sidney Lanier on Atlanta and the north Georgia area were as high as 5.5 billion dollars a year in one study (Hughes, 2001). The census data shows increasing populations in the surrounding communities and other information indicates that added outdoor recreation opportunities are important to the local community. The project will not change the socio-economics of the area.

(13) Prime and Unique Farmland.

There are no prime farmlands or unique agricultural lands located on the Project Area. Therefore, this project would not require a prime farmland evaluation (United States Department of Agriculture Form 1006) by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

(14) Hazardous and Toxic Materials.

The proposed project does include the replacement of the current fueling dock. The fueling station will be designed and operated as required by the Georgia Underground Storage Tank Program. The underground storage tank for this system is located outside of the lease, with product lines transecting the lease and connecting to the fuel dock. BMPs will be utilized to minimize inadvertent release of petroleum product to the impoundment and the Spill Prevention Plan will be updated to current on-site technologies.

(15) Other.

(a) Land Use Changes.

The recommended plan is consistent with the current use of the area as a small marina and will provide additional recreational opportunities. The redevelopment of the trail system will result in easier access to the dock facilities, but will not significantly alter the land use of the area.

(b) Vehicular Traffic.

The proposed plan will only affect club members. At present, there are 164 active members, with the membership capped at 170 members. Of the potential 170 members, there are a total of 135 homes/cottages surrounding the lease area. Therefore, the majority of the members have accommodations and would not need travel to and from the lake daily. Further, the proposed Master Plan would only add 25 new slips and would replace 22 old slips. Many of the existing docks were built in the 1960s and will not accommodate newer boats with 8 ½ foot beams. Currently, with only 142 slips, the club is not able to accommodate each member with a slip. The addition of the slips will reduce the number of members that need to trailer their boat to the lake. While there may be a very slight increase in the number of vehicles, there is anticipated to be fewer vehicles pulling trailers. Therefore, no significant increase in vehicular traffic is expected from the proposed enhancements. Access to the lease area will be unchanged.

(c) Noise Impacts.

Noise sources that would result in an adverse impact to the proposed project were not identified. The proposed action will not result in increased noise, other than the short-term noise generated during construction of the docks and improved trail system.

5. CUMULATIVE IMPACTS.

The CEQ defines cumulative effects as “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions (40 CFR 1408.7).”

The primary impacts of the proposed improvements would include the minor, short-term impacts during construction of the site infrastructure. The use of best management practices during the site upgrades should minimize temporary construction impacts. Properties immediately surrounding Athens Boat Club and adjoining Lake Sidney Lanier are primarily developed with low to medium density residential communities. Some private properties located along nearby roads are still forested or undeveloped pastureland, which could be developed with residential homes in the future. As the nearby properties and the metropolitan Atlanta area continue to become developed, it is anticipated annual visitation to Lake Sidney Lanier will continue to grow increasing demands for additional recreational opportunities, lake services, and dockage. This growth could result in an increased demand for community services, roads, and other infrastructure.

Cumulative environmental impacts from the proposed developments at Athens Boat Club and surrounding properties are generally expected to include increased boat traffic, additional noise sources, traffic, and additional up-stream developments contributing to silt deposition within the lake. The proposed improvements at Athens Boat Club are minimal when compared to development of other properties and will result in minimal site disturbance and impact. Proper management of future development by the local community through existing zoning restrictions, development ordinances, and state mandated best management practices, as well as future infrastructure improvements should minimize the cumulative impacts. It is not anticipated Athens Boat Club will significantly contribute to the anticipated cumulative impacts.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EXECUTIVE ORDER 12898).

Executive Order (EO) 12898 of February 11, 1994 requires addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of Federal actions on minority and low-income populations. No minority or low-income communities are located in close proximity to the property.

The proposed plan is not anticipated to create adverse health or environmental conditions. Further, the lease area is not located in an area where the residents are disproportionately minority and/or low income.

7. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (EXECUTIVE ORDER 13045).

EO 13045 of April 21, 1997 requires, to the extent permitted by law and mission, identifying and assessing environmental health and safety risks to children posed by a proposed action. Potential health and safety risks would be present during the construction activities. As this area is utilized by families and children, equipment and construction areas will be properly fenced or contained and posted during construction to provide adequate safety and protection.

8. ANY IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED SHOULD THE RECOMMENDED PLAN BE IMPLEMENTED.

Any irreversible or irretrievable commitments of resources involved in the proposed action have been considered and are either unanticipated at this time, or have been considered and determined to present minor impacts. The proposed action is reversible, and reclamation of the property could be easily conducted in the future to return the property to natural conditions. Reclamation, if needed, would include removal of site infrastructure, abandonment of the trail systems, vegetative restoration, and the placement of possible obstructions or signage to impede access.

9. ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS WHICH CANNOT BE AVOIDED. Any adverse environmental effects which cannot be avoided should the recommended project be implemented are expected to be minor individually and cumulatively. These include very minor soil disturbance from construction activities, and minimal removal of understory vegetation.

10. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY.

The proposed project constitutes a short-term use of man's environment, will result in minimal environmental impacts, and is not anticipated to affect long-term productivity. The proposed use of the Project Site is compatible with surrounding uses and will provide additional outdoor recreation opportunities.

11. ALTERNATIVES TO THE RECOMMENDED PLAN.

a. "No Action" Alternative:

As evaluated in this EA, the "No-Action" alternative would consist only of maintenance of the existing infrastructure. Under the "No Action" alternative, the plan would not satisfy the demand for additional wet slips, shore stability or improved safety and access along the trail system. The primary advantage of this alternative would be the lack of disturbance to the environment that will occur from constructing the new docks and upgrades to the existing trail system. Disadvantages of this alternative are that shoreline erosion will continue unabated and that pedestrian use of the degraded trail system will likely increase sediment deposition in the immediate area of the lake.

b. Alternative 1 –Dredging:

Athens Boat Club previously applied for and was granted a onetime permit (Feb. 1987) to remove sediment deposition from the lake. Proposed dredging activities were to be limited to four areas within the lease and it was estimated approximately 6,046 cubic yards of deposition would be removed from the lake. It was anticipated that these activities would be completed while the lake was drawn down. Apparently, a rapid rise in lake elevation delayed the planned dredging activities. The Limited Dredging Alternative was evaluated relative to the proposed Master Plan. The advantage of this alternative is that this action can be completed in a relatively short time frame, minimizing disruption to lake access to club members. However, this alternative does not address three of the four goals the club has outlined: additional dockage, upgraded trail systems, and shoreline stabilization. The high costs of dredging without additional revenue from docks/slips makes this alternative impractical.

12. REVIEW AND COORDINATION.

During preparation and review of this draft EA, review requests will be sent to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Historic Preservation Division (SHPO), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested State and Federal Agencies to allow for comment on the proposed action. Coordination with the Georgia Historic Preservation Division will be conducted as part of this EA. The results of the coordination will be outlined in the final EA. Finally, the final draft of the EA will be posted on the USACE Mobile website for public review and comment. Any comments will be reviewed and appropriately addressed in the final EA.

13. REFERENCES.

Federal Emergency Management Agency, online Map Service Center, FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Number: 13085C0250B, September 26, 2008

Department of the Army, South Atlantic Division, Corps of Engineers. 2004. Final Environmental Impact Statement. Lake Sidney Lanier, Georgia, Operations and Maintenance.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, Protected and Rare Species, HUC8 Watershed Code: 03130001
(http://georgiawildlife.com/sites/default/files/uploads/wildlife/nongame/text/html/huc8_eos/chattahoochee_river_upper.html)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. September 1998. Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Water Allocation Table for the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee Flint (ACF) River Basin, Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Listed Species in Chattahoochee River, Upper North Watershed (HUC8: 03130001), February 2007.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

- a. <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Endangered/mammals/inba/inbafctsht.html>
- b. <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/nlbaFactSheet.html>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, online Soil Survey of Dawson County, Georgia.

U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetland Inventory Map, On-Line Wetlands Mapper.

U.S. Geological Survey, 7.5-Minute Series Quadrangle Map, Coal Mountain, Georgia, 2011.

Environmental Laboratory. Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual, Technical Report Y-87-1, U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, Vicksburg, MS, 1987.

LakeLanier.com, Historic Water Level Data (<http://lakelanier.com/historical-water-level-data>), accessed March 24, 2014.

59 FR 65505 65512, date 12-20-1994, [ETWP; Determination of Threatened Status for the Cherokee Darter and Endangered Status for the Etowah Darter](#)

50 FR 31597 31604, date 08-05-1985, [Determination of End. Status & Crit. Hab for Amber Darter & Conasauga Logperch](#)

42 FR 60765 60768, date 11-29-1977, Proposed Endangered Status and Critical Habitat for Four Fishes

14. APPENDICES - SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.

A. Maps and Figures

1. Figure 1: Lake Recreation Map
2. Figure 2: Site Location/Street Map
3. Figure 3: USGS Topographic Map
4. Figure 4: National Wetland Inventory Map
5. Figure 5: Soil Survey Map
6. Figure 6: Floodplain Map
7. Figure 7: Existing Conditions and Preliminary Wetland Map (Pending)

B. Existing and Proposed Master Plans

1. Existing (Approved) Master Site Plan, dated December 17, 1985
2. Existing Master Site Plan, Revised September 2004
3. Athens Boat Club, Proposed Master Plan, dated April 14, 2014

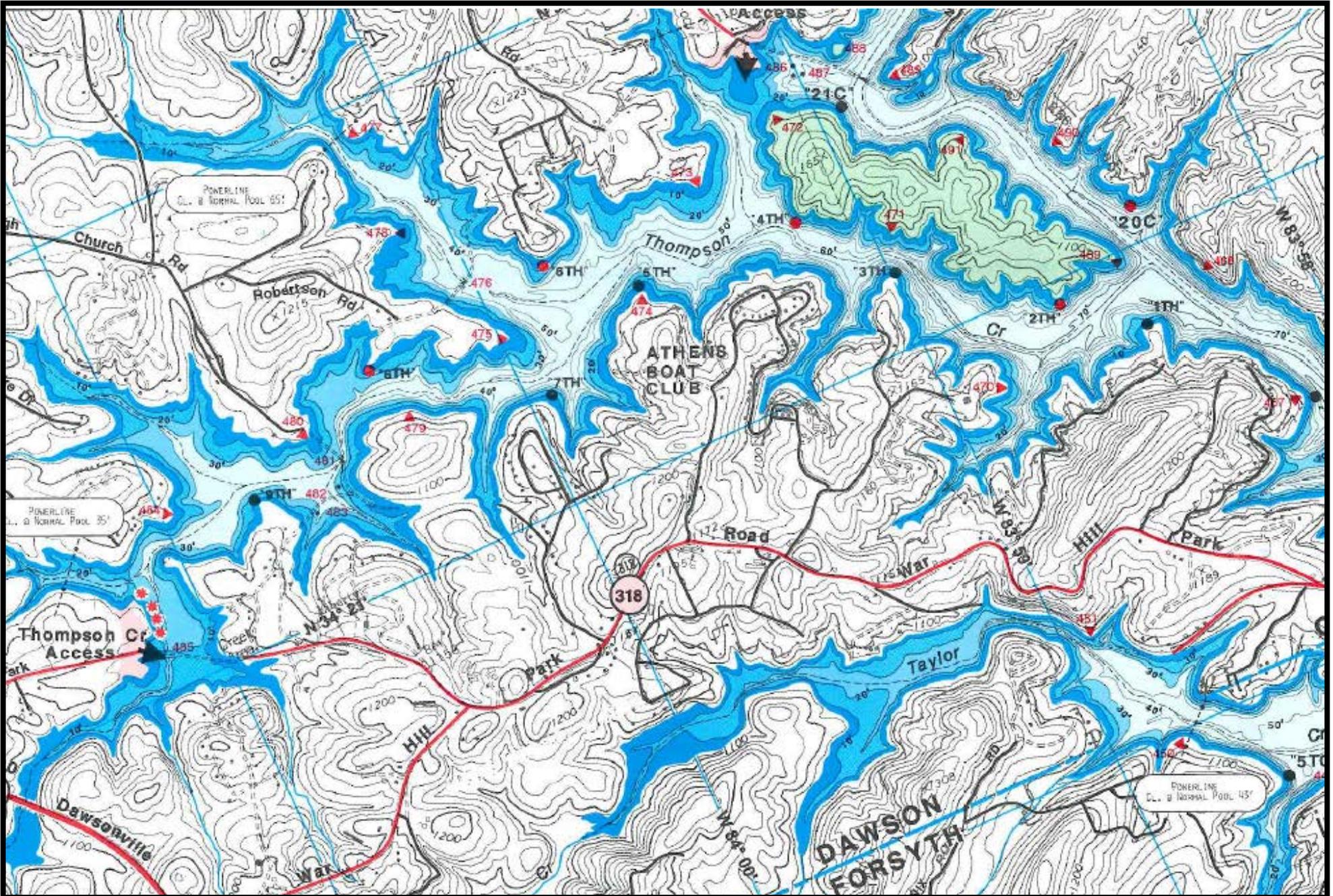
C. Site Photographs

D. Inadvertent Discoveries Plan for Cultural Resources

E. Agency Consultation (Pending)

F. Public Comments (Pending)

APPENDIX A - MAPS AND FIGURES

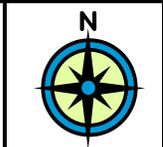
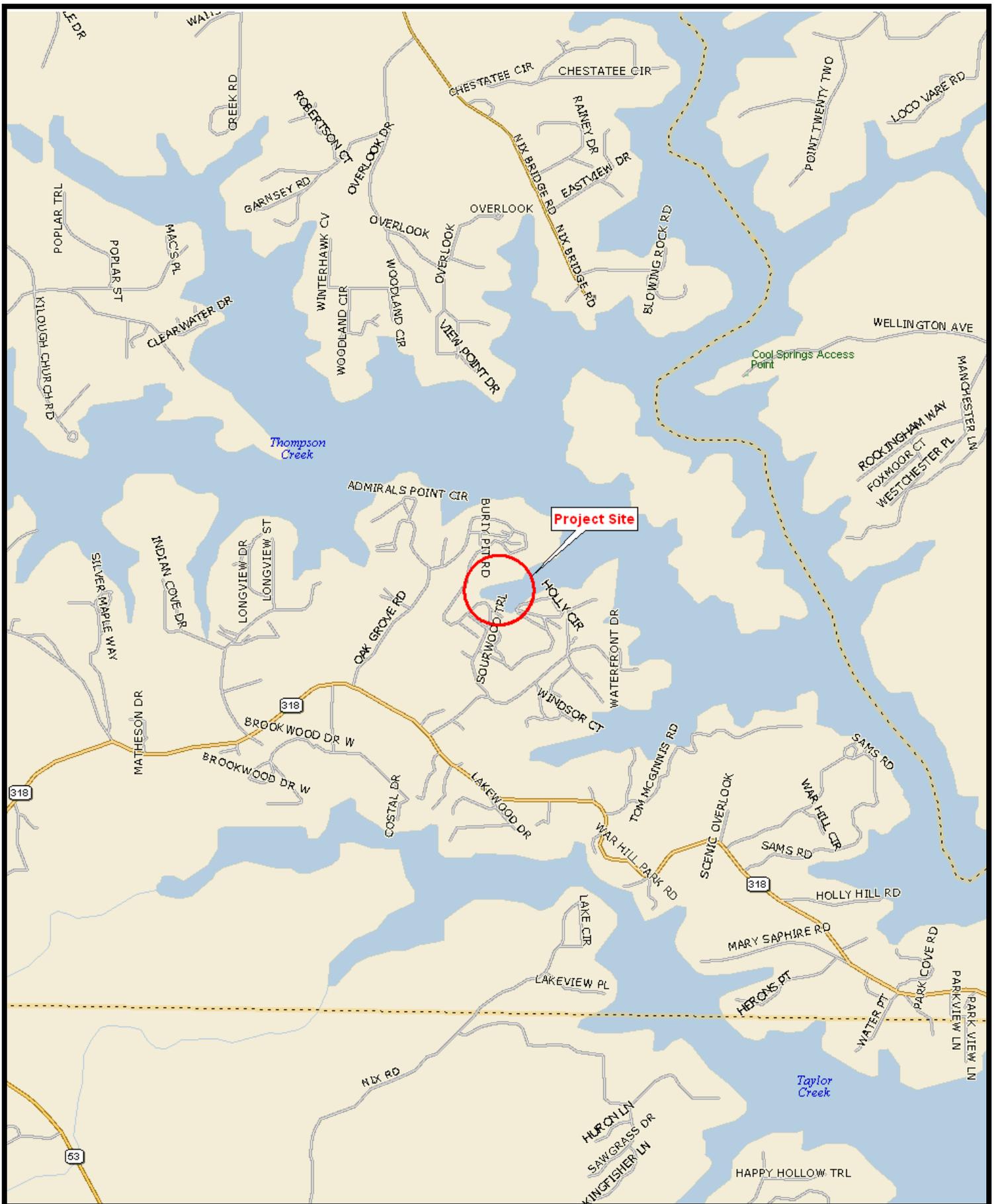


Scale:	See Scale
Prepared:	BJB
Checked:	DPH
Project No.:	2013.4368.01

Notes:

Client:	Athens Boat Club
Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Title:	Lake Recreation Map

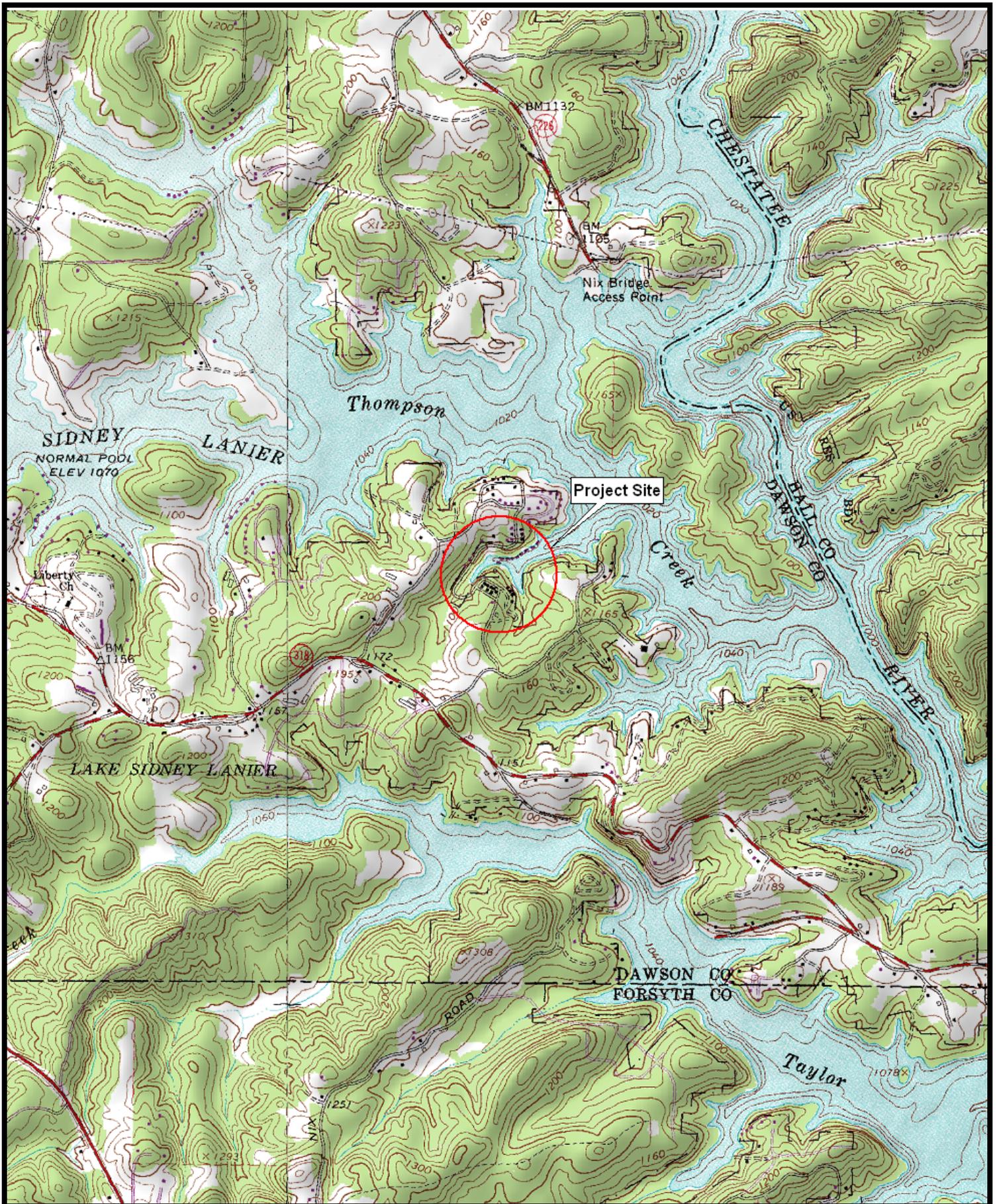
FIG.1



Scale:	1"=2,000'
Prepared:	BJB
Checked:	DPH
Project No.:	2013.4368.01

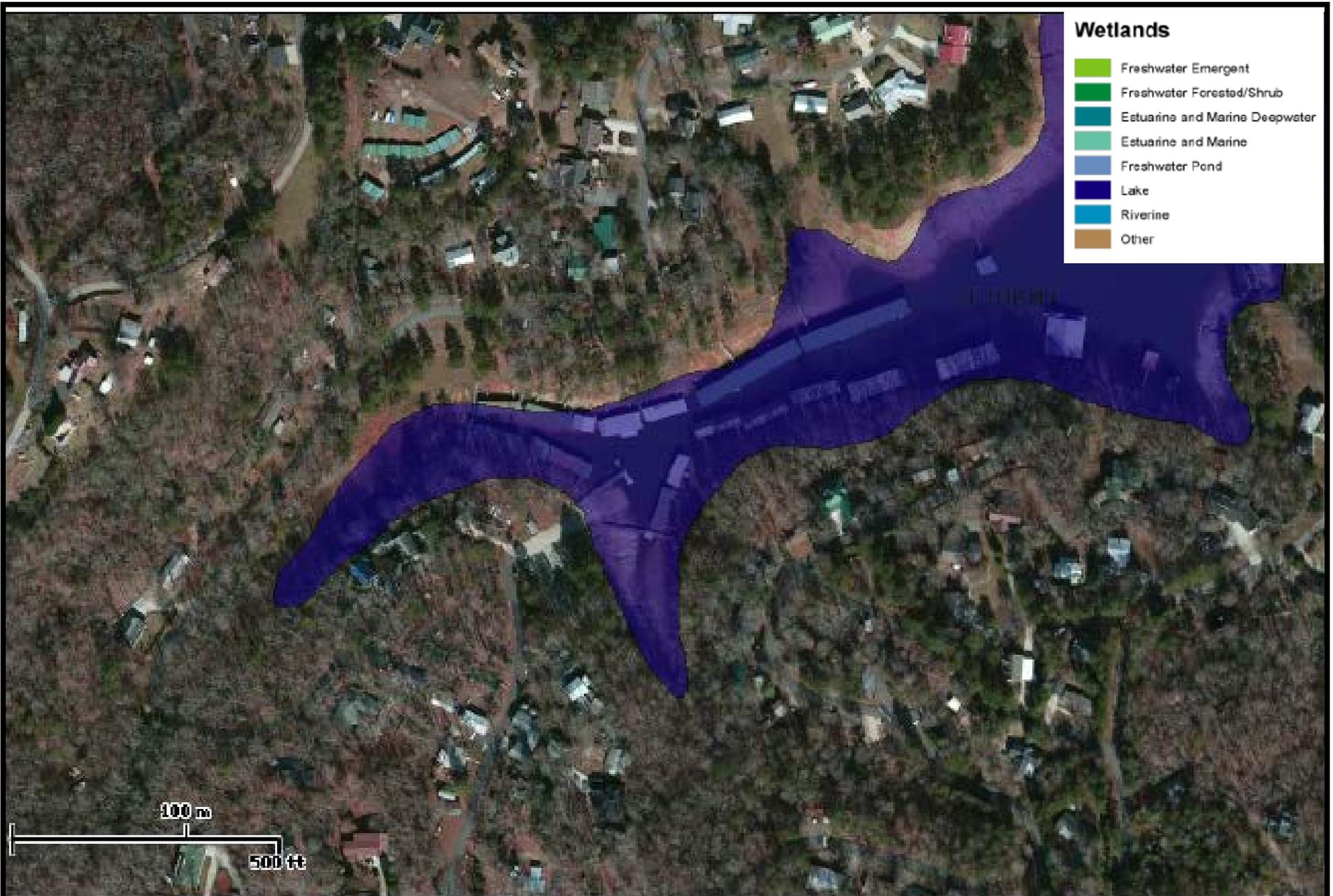
Client:	Athens Boat Club
Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Title:	Site Location Map

FIG. 2



Scale:	1"=2,000'	Client:	Athens Boat Club
Prepared:	BJB	Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Checked:	DPH	Title:	USGS Topographic Map
Project No.:	2013.4368.01		

FIG. 3



Wetlands

■	Freshwater Emergent
■	Freshwater Forested/Shrub
■	Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
■	Estuarine and Marine
■	Freshwater Pond
■	Lake
■	Riverine
■	Other



Scale:	See Scale
Prepared:	BJB
Checked:	DPH
Project No.:	2013.4368.01

Notes:

Client:	Athens Boat Club
Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Title:	National Wetland Inventory Map

FIG. 4

Custom Soil Resource Report
Soil Map

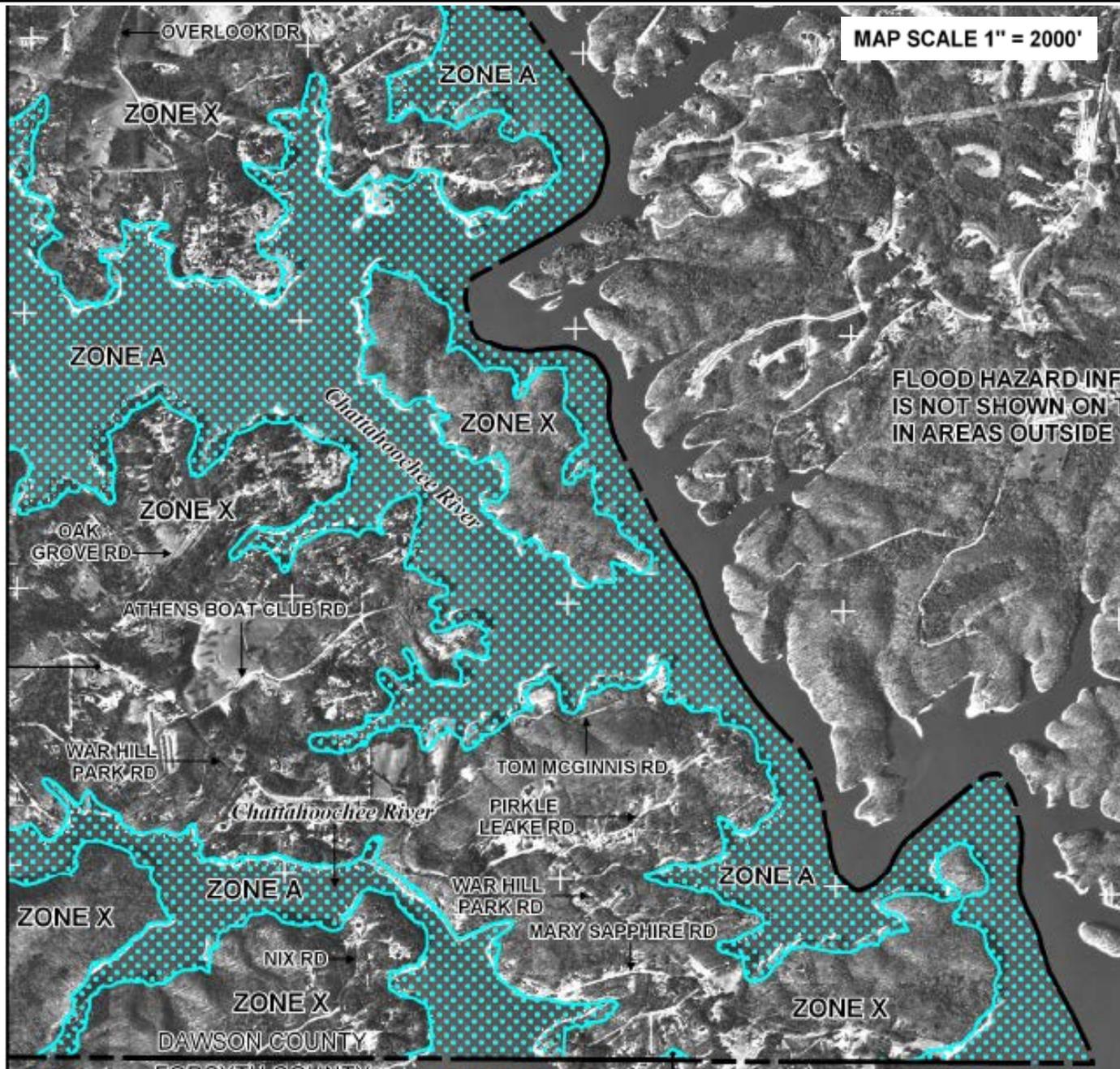


Scale:	See Scale
Prepared:	BJB
Checked:	DPH
Project No.:	2013.4368.01

Notes:

Client:	Athens Boat Club
Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Title:	Soil Survey Map

FIG. 5



Scale:	See Scale
Prepared:	BJB
Checked:	DPH
Project No.:	2013.4368.01

Notes:

Client:	Athens Boat Club
Site:	Athens Boat Club, Lake Sidney Lanier
Title:	Floodplain Map

FIG. 6



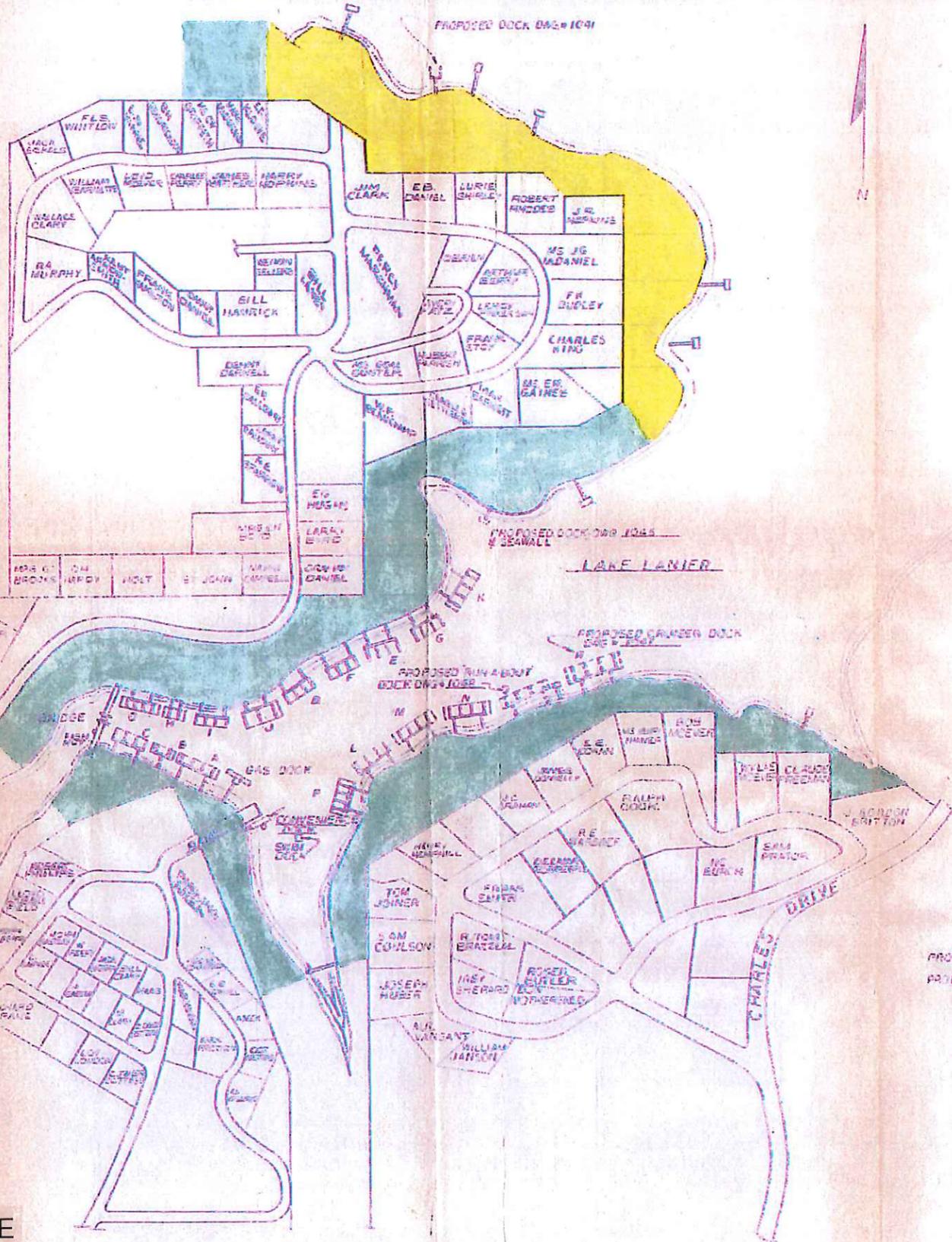
NOTE: DOCKS & AMENITIES LABELED PER EXISTING MASTER PLAN, DATED SEPTEMBER 2004.

SCALE: NTS	DATE: 5-18-15	PROJECT NO: 2013.3468.01	TITLE:
PREPARED: VPV	CHECKED:	REVISIONS:	EXISTING CONDITIONS MAP ATHENS BOAT CLUB DAWSONVILLE, DAWSON COUNTY, GEORGIA
CLIENT: ATHENS BOAT CLUB	 UNITED CONSULTING <i>We're here for you</i> 625 Holcomb Bridge Road Norcross, Georgia 30071 770-209-0029 Fax 582-2900 www.unitedconsulting.com Copyright © United Consulting Group, Ltd.		

FIG. 7

APPENDIX B – EXISTING (APPROVED) AND PROPOSED MASTER PLANS

LAKE LANIER FIELD OFFICE
MASTER PLAN ON FILE



BOAT	NO.	SLIP	COVER	BOATS
A	2	18x13	6x25	7
B	1	14x10	3x17	3
C	2	12x10	—	6
D	2	10x10	—	6
E	2	10x13	—	6
F	3	14x17	—	6
G	2	16x17	—	6
H	1	16x20	8x20	8
I	2	14x15	—	6
J	2	14x15	8x25	6
K	1	14x10	3x20	6
L	2	10x10	3x20	7
M	2	14x10	10x20	6
N	3	12x10	4x24	6
O	1	20x16	6x25	6
P	3	20x10	6x21	6
Q	2	20x15	10x25	6
R	1	22x15	7x20	2
STAY				
WATER				
CONY				
SLIP				
TOTAL				115

GENERAL SITE PLAN FOR THE
ATHENS BOAT CLUB
DANVILLE, GEORGIA

DATE: 12-17-55

BY: [Signature]

Checked: [Signature]

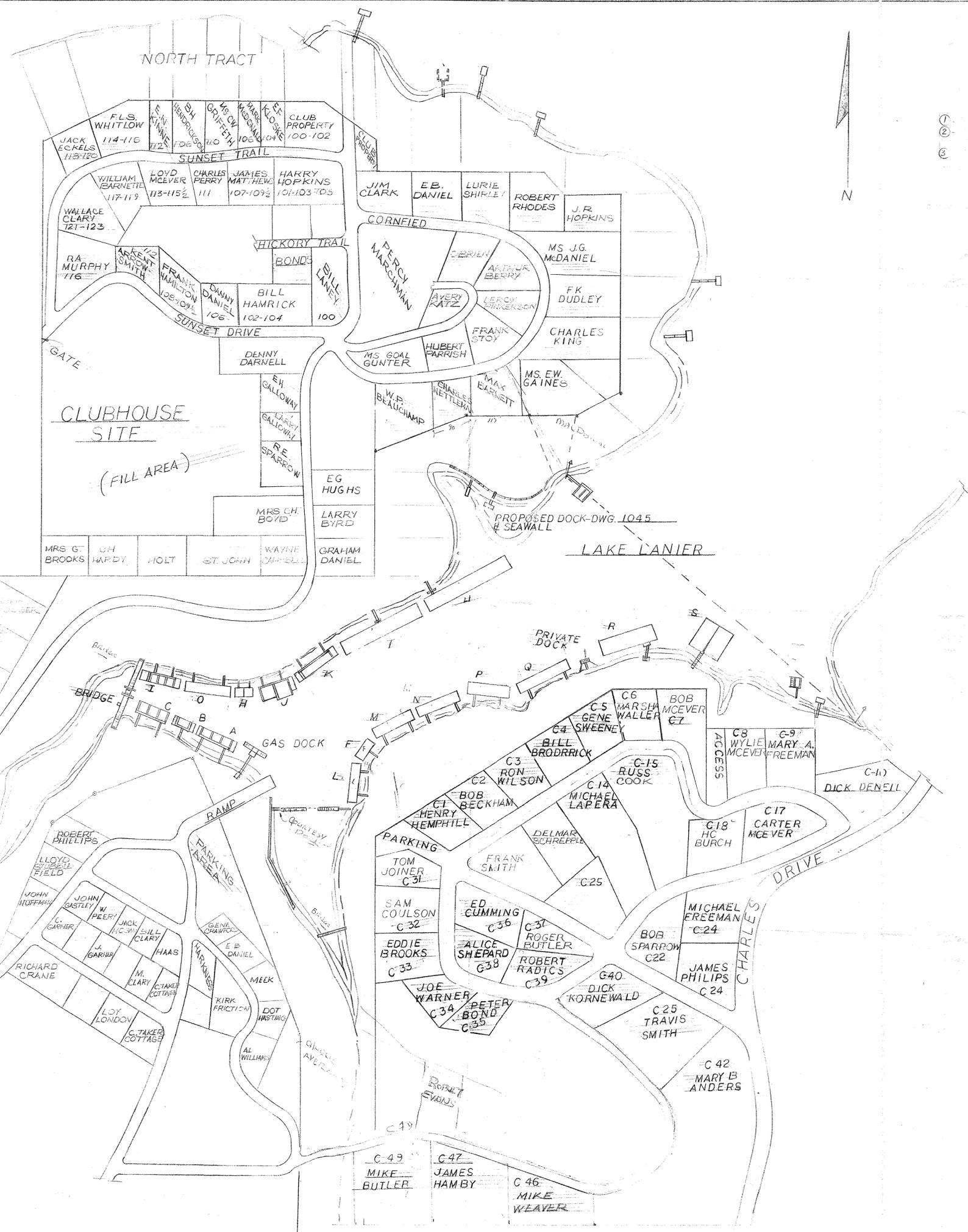
Drawn: [Signature]

Scale: 1" = 100'

Sheet: 1057

NOTE: PRINT REVISED 9/04

①
②
③



DOCK	COV. SLIPS	SLIP SIZE	OVER HANG	BOATS DOCKED
A	3	18x20	9'x23'	8
B	1	16x20	8'x20'	4
C	3	18x20	—	8
F	3	16x17	—	4
H	1	16x20	7'x20'	4
I	3	16x20	—	8
J	2	24x35	8'x35'	6
K	3	18x20	8'x20'	8
L	3	18x20	7'x20'	7
M	3	18x20	9'x24'	8
N	3	18x20	9'x24'	8
O	3	20x20	9'x23'	8
P	3	20x20	9'x23'	8
Q	8	12'x25'	10'x25'	8
R	8	14'x30'	10'x30'	8
S	8	11'x30'	—	10
T	16	22'x26'	—	16
U	16	22'x26'	—	16
TOTAL				147

PRINT UPDATED 9/04

GENERAL SITE PLAN FOR THE
ATHENS BOAT CLUB
DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA

Scale = APPX 1"=100'
Date: 12-17-85

Drawn by: MFB

Barnett Irrigation & Dock Company Inc.

PO Box 5365
Athens, Georgia

Drawing Number: 1052

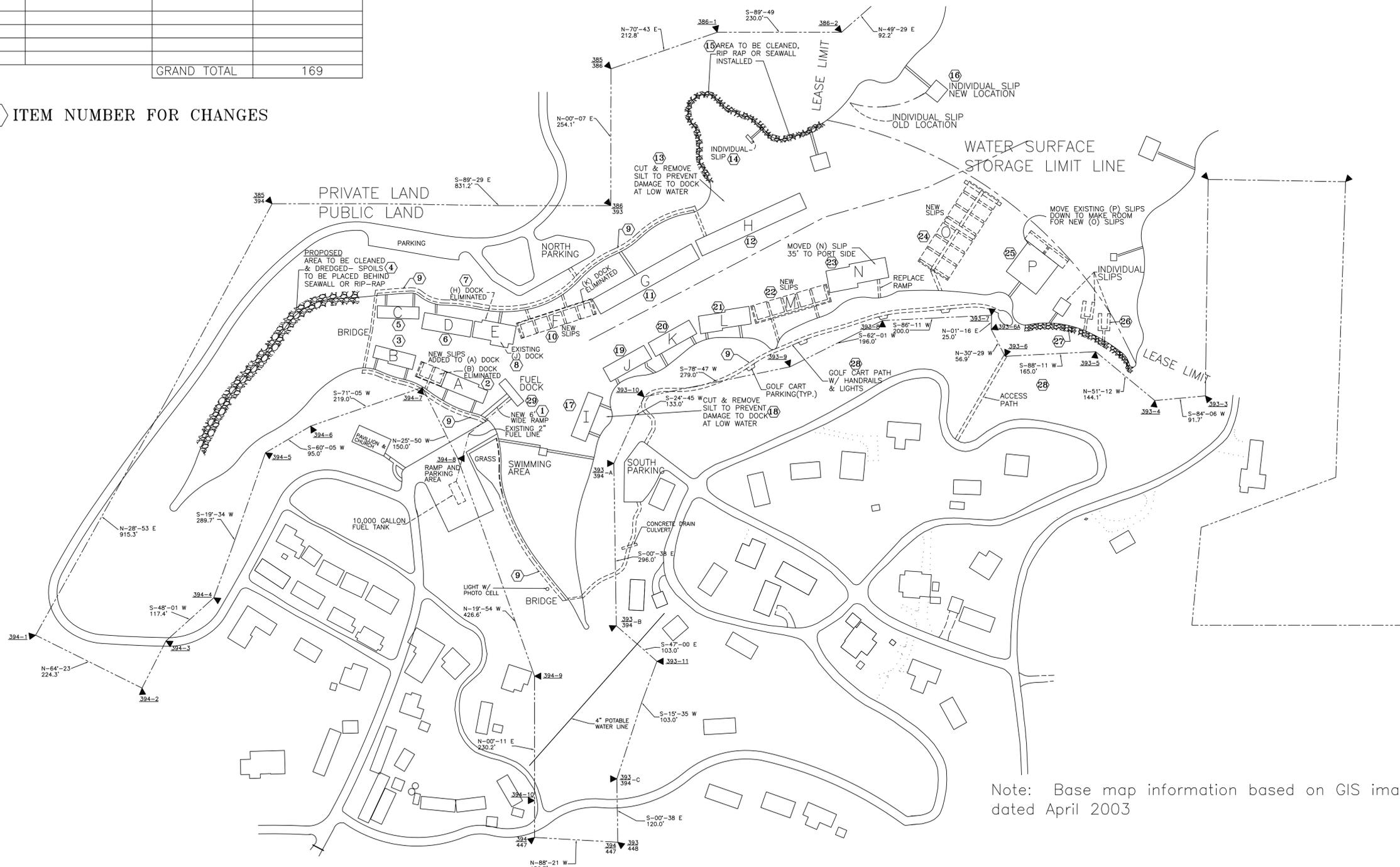
LIMITED USE = 8.0 ACRES
 EXCLUSIVE USE = 4.93 ACRES
 TOTAL LEASE = 12.93 ACRES

DOCK	EXISTING SLIPS	REMARKS	TOTAL SLIPS
A	8	ADDED 4 SLIPS	12
B	8		8
C	8		8
D	8		8
E	6	MOVED	6
F	0	10 NEW SLIPS	10
G	16		16
H	16		16
I	8		8
J	8		8
K	8		8
L	0	10 NEW SLIPS	10
M	8		8
N	8		8
O	0	22 NEW SLIPS	22
P	10	2 NEW SLIPS	12
①	1	INDIVIDUAL SLIP	1
GRAND TOTAL			169

LEGEND

1. REPLACE EXISTING GAS DOCK RAMP WITH NEW 6 FT. WIDE RAMP WITH NEW ENCAPSULATED STYROFOAM.
2. EXISTING "B" DOCK ELIMINATED—REPLACE WITH NEW (2)20'x24' COVERED SLIPS ATTACHED TO "A" DOCK WITH STRUCTURAL CONFIGURATION SIMILAR TO THE EXISTING "T" & "U" DOCKS.
3. EXISTING "L" DOCK MOVED TO PRIOR "C" DOCK LOCATION, DUE TO ITS REMOVAL AFTER EXTENSIVE STORM DAMAGE. "L" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "B".
4. AREA TO BE CLEANED AND DREDGED—SOILS TO BE PLACED BEHIND SEAWALL OR RIPRAP.
5. EXISTING "I" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "C".
6. EXISTING "O" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "D".
7. EXISTING "H" DOCK ELIMINATED.
8. EXISTING "J" DOCK RELOCATED TO EXISTING "H" DOCK POSITION.
9. WALK TRAIL TO DOCKS COATED WITH #M-88 GRAVEL.
10. EXISTING "K" DOCK ELIMINATED. REPLACED WITH TEN(10) NEW SLIPS 24'x26' STRUCTURE TO BE BUILT SIMILAR TO EXISTING "T" AND "U" DOCK FRAMEWORK. NEW DOCK SHALL BE LETTERED "F".
11. EXISTING "T" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "G".
12. EXISTING "U" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "H".
13. SILT AND DREDGE REQUIRED UNDER EXISTING "U" DOCK TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO DOCK AT LOW WATER—REQUEST FOR REMOVAL TO CORPS OF ENGINEERS DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2011.
14. INDIVIDUAL SLIPS TO BE REMOVED—REPLACED WITH DICK DENELL. SEE ITEM #26 DENELL UPGRADE.
15. AREA TO BE CLEANED, RIP-RAP OR SEAWALL INSTALLED.
16. MANLEY'S INDIVIDUAL SLIP TO BE RELOCATED TO NEW LOCATION.
17. EXISTING "F" DOCK ELIMINATED AND EXISTING "M" DOCK MOVED TO "F" DOCK LOCATION AND LETTER CHANGED TO "I".
18. CUT AND REMOVE SLIT TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO DOCK AT LOW WATER.
19. EXISTING "N" DOCK MOVED TO EXISTING "M" DOCK LOCATION AND LETTER CHANGED TO "J".
20. EXISTING "P" DOCK MOVED TO EXISTING "N" DOCK LOCATION AND LETTER CHANGED TO "K".
21. EXISTING "Q" DOCK MOVED TO EXISTING "P" DOCK LOCATION AND LETTER CHANGED TO "L".
22. NEW DOCK WITH (10) SLIPS—(5) 24'x30'. STRUCTURE TO BE BUILT SIM. TO EXISTING "T" AND "U" DOCK FRAMEWORK. NEW DOCK SHALL BE LETTERED "M".
23. EXISTING "R" DOCK LETTER CHANGED TO "N".
24. REPLACE RAMP W/ 6x60' BRIDGE.
25. NEW "O" DOCK WITH TEN(10) SLIPS 24'x30' W/ TWO 12'x30'. SAME CONFIGURATION STRUCTURE AS OLD "T" & "U" DOCKS WITH 6' BREAKWATER. DOCK LETTER TO BE "O".
26. REPLACE EXISTING "S" DOCK LETTER WITH "P". INSTALL TWO(2) SLIPS ONTO END OF DOCK 17'x45' WITH 17' ENTRANCE HEIGHT.
27. DICK DENELL UPGRADE TO NEW COVERED SLIP 11'x28' WITH NEW STEPS. REMOVE OLD "T" DOCK WITH RAMP.
28. INSTALL NEW RIPRAP FROM LEAST LIMIT TO INTERCONNECT WITH EXISTING RIPRAP FOR EROSION CONTROL AT EXISTING "S" DOCK.
29. REFURBISH EXISTING WALKING TRAIL TO GOLF CART TRAIL WITH GRASS BLOCKS AS REQUIRED BY THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO ALLOW FOR GOLF CART TRAVEL WITH 4'x10' OFFSET FOR UNLOADING AND LOADING—GOLF CART TURN AROUND BUILT AT END FOR RETURN. INSTALL NEW HANDRAIL WITH LIGHTS ON LAKESIDE OF CART PATH. DREDGE AND CLEAN SEDIMENT AS REQUESTED AT GAS DOCK WITH PERMIT APPLICATION TO CORPS OF ENGINEERS DATED 2007.

① ITEM NUMBER FOR CHANGES



Note: Base map information based on GIS imagery dated April 2003

General Notes

Athens Boat Club
 207 DOGWOOD DR. DAWSONVILLE, GA. 30534
 MASTER PLAN

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

ATHENS BOAT CLUB
 207 DOGWOOD DR.
 DAWSONVILLE, GA. 30534

Project	ABC-0414	Sheet	
Date	04/14/14	North	
Scale	1"=100'		

APPENDIX C - SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo # 1: View of current fueling dock.



Photo # 2: Pedestrian walkway across western inlet.

SUBJECT PHOTOGRAPHS: 2013.3468.01



Photo # 3: Steep bank along east end of lease area.



Photo # 4: Small, shallow inlet area on north side of lease area.

SUBJECT PHOTOGRAPHS: 2013.3468.01

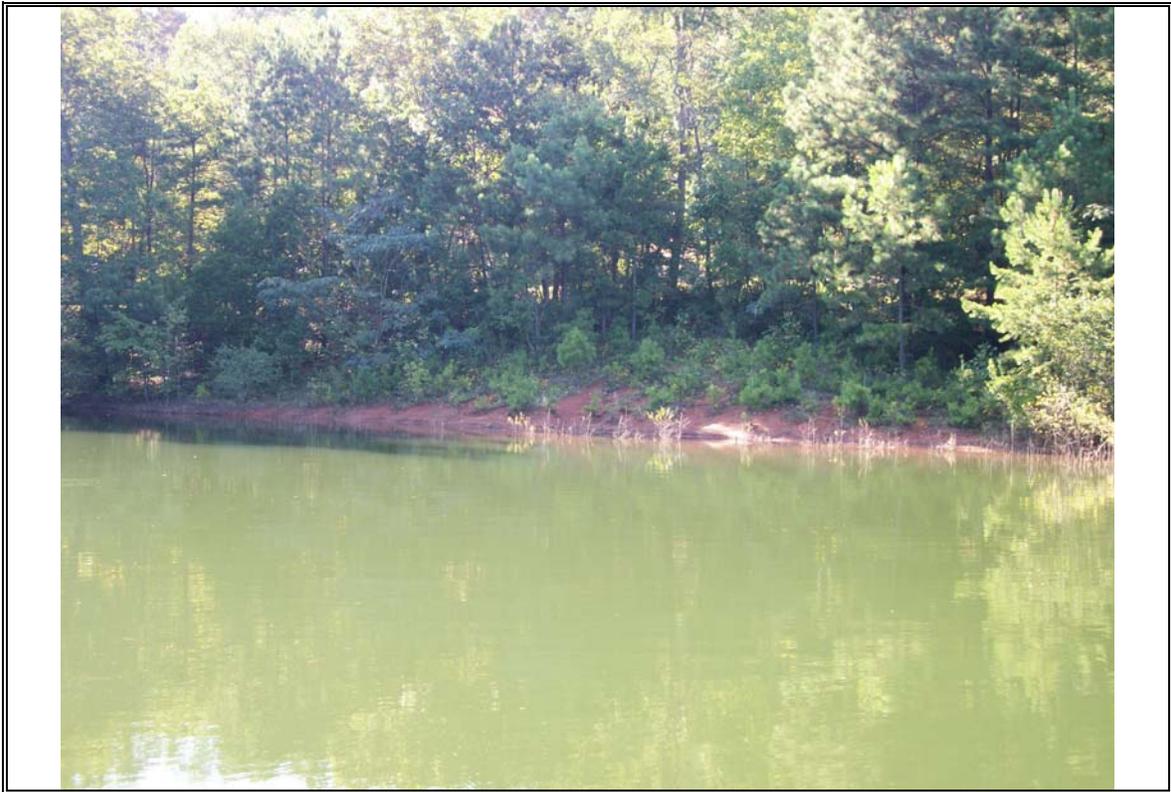


Photo # 5: Area of soil erosion along NW bank of the west inlet.



Photo # 6: Existing foot path along the lake edge.

SUBJECT PHOTOGRAPHS: 2013.3468.01



Photo # 7: Existing rip-rap, shoreline stabilization.



Photo # 8: Shallow area of eroded shoreline along north bank.

**APPENDIX D –
INADVERTENT DISCOVERIES PLAN FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Inadvertent Discovery Plan Athens Boat Club Dawson County, Georgia

Background

Athens Boat Club is located at off of Dogwood Drive, in Dawson County, Georgia. The Athens Boat Club was formed in 1958 as a social club and has developed over time into a small tight knit community. Access to the Athens Boat Club is restricted to club members and their guests, with the exception of the fueling station and weekly church services held throughout the summer months which are open to the general public.

The Athens Boat Club property includes private land holdings as well as a lease from the USACE. As described in the approved Master Plan, dated 17 December 1985, the lease area has been developed with a boat ramp, 15 docks totaling 147 slips, a parking lot along the north shore, access/cart pathways along the shoreline, 2 pedestrian bridges, a pedestrian walkway/swimming platform, and associated infrastructure.

Proposed Scope of Work

The proposed action is the implementation of the proposed master plan update, dated April 14, 2014. The proposed Master Plan includes the construction of additional slips, reconfiguration of existing docks and slips (for a total increase of 25 slips) walkway construction/stabilization, limited dredging/reclamation activities, and shoreline stabilization.

Federal review/permits are required; therefore, this project constitutes a federal undertaking as defined under 36 CFR Part 800 *Protection of Historic Properties; Final Rule*, the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation's administrative regulations implementing the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). As this project is on USACE Mobile District property, the Mobile District of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has been designated the Lead Federal Agency for this project and is, therefore, responsible for cultural resources issues. Section 36 CFR Section 800.13 details actions to be taken in the event that historic properties are discovered during the implementation of this undertaking.

This emergency discovery plan involves two principal areas of concern.

1. Unidentified archaeological sites that have not been subjected to NRHP evaluation.

These are sites which usually consist of cultural materials (artifacts) as contained within a reasonably intact soil matrix. For prehistoric sites, items such as projectile points (arrow heads), pottery sherds, shells, bone fragments, etc., which may be contained within a dark soil. The dark soil is usually the result of humans introducing organics such as carbon from fires, animal tissue, waste, etc. These may be large dark areas where people lived or smaller dark areas that represent storage pits, fire basins or even graves. For historic

sites, the artifacts may consist of brick fragments, broken bottle glass (clear, green, amethyst, etc.), ceramic plate fragments, iron objects (nails, hinges, etc.), bones, and so forth which may be associated with dark soil.

2. Human remains.

Beginning in prehistoric times and continuing into the present, humans have inhabited the project area. As a result, human remains may have been interred within the project area. If present, human remains are likely to appear as bone fragments or chalky white substances as contained within elongated dark areas (graves).

Archaeological Site Identification Training

Site Managers, Grading supervisors and heavy equipment operators (bulldozers, excavators, trackhoes, etc.) will attend an initial training session. This should be done as a part of their regular safety meetings. Archaeologists will spend fifteen to thirty minutes describing potentially significant artifacts that the operators might find, describing how such finds might appear (by providing actual examples of artifacts and/or photographs of artifacts and the dark soil matrix), and explaining what to do in the event that discoveries of such potentially significant artifacts are made. The operators will also be instructed as to what is NOT considered significant (i.e., recent trash such as beer bottles, aluminum cans, plastic, etc.). The aim of such training is not to slow down the earth-moving process but rather to identify a critical path to be followed for legitimate potentially significant discoveries. Construction personnel will also be apprised of the exact protocol to be followed in the event they encounter what they believe to be a potentially significant artifact.

Emergency Discovery Protocol

In the event that a potentially significant artifact(s) (i.e. not recent trash) representing one or a combination of the above described areas of concern is observed, then the following procedures will be followed.

All heavy equipment operations within a fifty (50)-foot buffer surrounding the potentially significant artifact(s) will cease. The registered professional archeologist, to be determined, will then be consulted regarding the potential artifact.

If the archeologist believes that the find is a potentially significant artifact and does fall within one or more of the above referenced concerns, then the site supervisor will cordon off the relevant area and enforce the aforementioned buffer around the find. He or she will then initiate the notification process outlined below:

1. Bob Beckham, with the Athens Boat Club. 207 Dogwood Drive, Dawsonville, Georgia 30534 (706) 216-2256
2. The Lake Sidney Lanier Project Office will be contacted and detail will be given on the circumstances of the find. The Lake Sidney Lanier Project Office will then contact Mr. Michael Fedoroff, District Archaeologist at (251) 694-4114 (direct office line) or (251) 263-

3190 (cell phone), or Brian Zettle, Inland Chief (251) 694-2115 at the USACE Mobile District Office.

3. USACE will then notify the SHPO and the appropriate Federally recognized Tribes, if applicable. The District Archaeologist will be responsible for further investigation of the potentially significant artifacts. The District Archaeologist will investigate the find and, if they determine it, in their professional opinion, to not be significant, they will document sufficient justification for their decision. If, however, they determine the find to be significant, then, USACE, and the SHPO and, the appropriate tribes will be notified immediately and a plan of action will be initiated.

Summary

The purpose of this document is to provide an emergency discovery protocol in the event that unidentified cultural materials are revealed during grading and construction activities. It should be noted that there may be historic materials which may remain on certain sites after the archaeologists have completed their work. These sites, though mitigated through data recovery, may contain some archaeological materials as a result of the sampling program employed. This is interpreted as an acceptable loss and should not hinder the construction program as long as they are not human remains. In this case, all work will cease, as per the protocol outlined above, in order to allow an appropriate plan of action to be developed to address the particular circumstances of a particular specific find(s).

APPENDIX E – AGENCY CONSULTATION

PENDING

APPENDIX F – PUBLIC COMMENTS (IF APPLICABLE)

PENDING